



Introduced Version

**SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION honoring Bishop John Michael D'Arcy on the occasion of his retirement.

Wyss, Broden, Zakas

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on

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SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION honoring Bishop John Michael D'Arcy on the occasion of his retirement.

Whereas, Bishop John Michael D'Arcy, the son of Irish immigrants Margaret and Michael D'Arcy, was born on August 18, 1932, in Boston, Massachusetts;

Whereas, Bishop D'Arcy began preparation for the priesthood in September 1949 at Saint John's Seminary in Brighton, Massachusetts, and was ordained a priest on February 2, 1957;

Whereas, After serving as a parish priest in the Boston area for nine years, Bishop D'Arcy was ordained an assistant bishop for the Archdiocese of Boston in February 1975, where he also served as the diocese's vicar for spiritual development;

Whereas, Bishop D'Arcy was appointed the eighth Bishop of the Fort Wayne-South Bend Diocese on February 26, 1985, and installed on May 1, 1985;

Whereas, Described as a "sincerely spiritual man and an even-handed faith leader whose outspokenness has been only to uphold traditional Catholicism in communion with his papal superiors and ecclesial colleagues", Bishop D'Arcy has served the Catholics of the Fort Wayne-South Bend Diocese with zeal and dedication for many years;

Whereas, After 24 years of service to the diocese, Bishop



D'Arcy is retiring;

Whereas, During his time as Bishop of the Fort Wayne-South Bend diocese, Bishop D'Arcy has shown a strong interest in education and young people by strengthening elementary and high schools and raising salaries to retain skilled teachers;

Whereas, His tenure, however, got off to a challenging start when he announced the closing of Huntington Catholic High School, which had an enrollment that had dwindled to 55 students;

Whereas, Bishop D'Arcy worked hard to win over his flock by visiting every parish in the diocese and talking with parishioners helping to ensure that the parishioners realized that all decisions would be made based on personal knowledge of the people and the parishes;

Whereas, Bishop D'Arcy has worked to help the colleges in the diocese implement the 1990 Vatican guidelines by putting the local bishop in charge of ensuring Catholic colleges and their theologians teach in accordance with church beliefs;

Whereas, The bishop also encouraged many new initiatives, including Redeemer Radio, a Fort Wayne-based Catholic AM radio station; the expansion of the Women's Care Centers for women facing crisis pregnancies; the Matthew 25 Health Clinic for the poor in Fort Wayne; the Ave Maria House day center for the homeless; and the efforts of Catholic Charities to resettle refugees from southeast Asia and Africa;

Whereas, Bishop D'Arcy was known throughout the diocese as a man of spiritual integrity who was never afraid to speak out;

Whereas, Bishop D'Arcy has stated that his priorities as bishop included "placing highly qualified priests, strengthening parish life, promoting prayer and the sacraments, and reaching out to young people"; and

Whereas, A man of great spiritual strength and courage,



Bishop D'Arcy has dedicated his life to serving the faithful wherever he was needed: Therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, the House of Representatives concurring:

- 1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly congratulates
- 2 Bishop John Michael D'Arcy on the occasion of his retirement as
- 3 bishop of the Fort Wayne-South Bend Diocese and thanks him for his
- 4 dedication and devotion to the spiritual, emotional, and physical well
- 5 being of the people of his diocese and the state of Indiana.
- 6 SECTION 2. That a copy of this resolution be transmitted by the
- 7 Secretary of the Senate to Bishop John Michael D'Arcy, the Fort
- 8 Wayne-South Bend Diocese, and the parishes of St. Vincent DePaul in
- 9 Fort Wayne, St. Pius X in Granger, Holy Cross in South Bend, St. John
- 10 the Baptist in Fort Wayne, and St. Mary of the Assumption, Avilla.

